SIKKIM

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
HOME DEPARTMENT
GANGTOK

No.26(100)H/Pro/89-90/07 **Dated: 26th November, 2007**

NOTIFICATION

In supersession of notification No.89/Home/2000 dated 31.10.2000, published in Extraordinary Gazette number 370 dated the 2nd November, 2000, the Governor of Sikkim is hereby pleased to make the following rules to regulate all matters on extension of hospitality to dignitaries visiting the State of Sikkim :-

Short title and Commencement. 1. (1) These rules may be called the Sikkim State Guests Rules, 2007.
(2) They shall come into force at once.

State Guests. 2. (1) The following dignitaries will be treated as State Guests when they visit the State of Sikkim for official or non-official purpose, namely:-

(i) The President of India.
(ii) The Vice President of India.
(iii) The Prime Minister of India.
(iv) The Chief Justice of India.
(v) Speaker of Lok Sabha.
(vi) Former Presidents of India.
(vii) Cabinet Ministers of the Union.
(viii) Deputy Chairman Planning Commission.
(ix) Former Vice Presidents of India.
(x) Former Prime Ministers of India.
(xi) Former Governors of Sikkim.
(xii) Governor of other States / Lt. Governor of Union Territories.
(xiii) Chief Minister of other States.
(xiv) Judges of the Supreme Court of India.
(xv) Chief Election Commissioner of India/Chief Information Commissioner of India
(xvi) Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
(xvii) Chairman Finance Commission.
(xviii) Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha.
(xix) Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha.
(xx) Members of the Central Planning Commission.
(xxi) Ministers of State of the Union.
(xxii) Central Information Commissioner/ Central Election Commissioner/Member Finance Commission.
(xxiii) Chief Justices of High Courts of other States.

(xxiv) Speaker of Legislative Assembly of other States.

(1) The family members of the State Guest, not exceeding three, when accompanying the State Guest will be treated as State Guests. They will include the guest himself, spouse and two dependent members. Also the personal staff and entourage accompanying the visiting dignitaries will also be provided with appropriate board and lodging and transport facilities.

(2) The Chief Justice and Judge of the High Court of Sikkim will be treated as State Guests when they visit Delhi and Calcutta where the State Government has its establishment.

(3) A retired Chief Justice or Judge initially appointed as Judge of the High Court of Sikkim shall be treated as State Guest whenever such Judge visits Sikkim and also Calcutta and Delhi where the State Government has its Establishments.

(4) A Judge initially appointed as the Judge of the High Court of Sikkim and transferred outside the State shall be treated as a State Guest whenever he visits Sikkim.

(6) Any other person may be declared and treated as State Guests for a period of one week by special order of the Government.

(7) The State Guests will be provided with the following facilities, for a period not exceeding seven days. When circumstances warrant, the period may be extended on orders of the State Government in each case.

Reception. 3. State Guests are generally received at Rangpo, the border of Sikkim and West Bengal, if they are traveling by road. If they travel to Sikkim by air, the reception will be arranged at the airfield in the State. Reception at Bagdogra airport or NJP railway station may be arranged for high dignitaries, if warranted by circumstances, with approval of the State Government.

Transport. 4. State Government will not provide helicopter facilities. Vehicles will be provided to the State Guests free of charge within the State. This will include travel from and to Bagdogra airport/ New Jalpaiguri Railway Station.

Press and Liaison. 5. The State Guests mentioned at rule 2 above may be provided with Liaison Officer. Press, Photography and other related arrangements to cover the visit of the State Guest will be arranged by the Information and Public Relations Department, Government of Sikkim, duly taking into consideration of the importance of the visit(s).

Accommodation. 6. (1) Dignitaries listed at sub-rule (1) of rule 2 may be accommodated in Raj Bhawan subject to availability of accommodation or the State Guest House/Circuit House.

(2) If accommodation, appropriate to their status, is not available at Raj Bhawan or the State Guest House/Circuit House, the accommodation may be arranged in other Guests Houses or Hotels subject to security clearance by the concerned authorities.

(3) The State Guest will be provided with free boarding and lodging at the places of their stay and their entire expenditure towards boarding, lodging etc will be met by the State Government.

(4) Expenditure on local telephone calls will be borne by the State Government. Charges on STD/ ISD/trunk call will be payable by the State Guests. No alcoholic drinks, Cigarettes etc., will be provided to the State Guest at the Government expense.

(5) The expenditure on the following items in respect of State Guests, will be borne by the Government of Sikkim in addition to accommodation, Board and transport :-

(a) Entertainment by State Guests during a Press Conference or interview

(b) Supply of Newspapers

(c) Presentation of Khada, Garlands and Bouquets
(d) Medical attendance
(e) Labour charges for loading and unloading luggage etc
(f) Refreshments provided to the State Guests at VVIP Lounge at Bagdogra Airport, NJP Railway Station.

Coordination. 7. Home (Protocol) department will be responsible for the overall co-ordination during the visit of State Guests. However, expenditure on the visit shall be met from only one source, and in case of State Guests visiting the State in connection with an official programme, the whole expenditure on the visit will be met by the organizing department/ agency.

Security. 8. The State Guests will be provided security by the Sikkim Police as per the threat perception and security requirements as assessed by the State Police.

Departmental Guests. 9. When a department considers that an official,delegation, team etc. visiting the State needs to be treated as guests of the department in public interest, a proposal in this regard should be submitted to Home Department through Finance, Revenue and Expenditure Department for prior clearance. Such departmental guests will be provided with the following facilities, for a period not exceeding five days:-

(a) Free accommodation and boarding (excluding alcoholic drinks, cigarettes etc)
(b) Free transport from Bagdogra/ New Jalpaiguri to Sikkim and back, and for the local journey within Sikkim
(c) Any other items on need basis with prior approval of the State Government

Paying Guests 10. Persons of known status, not coming under the categories of guests mentioned above, may be treated as paying guests on the orders of the Chief Secretary/Home Secretary. Accommodation and transport will be provided to them subject to availability on payment at prescribed rates by such guests prior to their departure from Sikkim.

Power to relax. 11. Where the State Government is of the opinion that it in necessary or expedient so to do, it may by order, for good and sufficient reasons, relax any of the provisions of these rules in individual cases.

Repeal & Saving 12. The provisions of these rules shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any order, Notification or executive instruction etc. for the time being enforced, regulating any of the matters dealt with in these rules.

BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF GOVERNOR.

Jasbir Singh
Pr. Secretary
Home Department